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The effect of the war abroad on American business gradually becomes clearer. And, for the most part, it is different than was expected when hostilities began last September. Paul Mallon recently published a brief analysis of the situation, furnishing it with facts of considerable interest.

First, war has upped our exports—but, curiously enough, the rise in sales to belligerents has been less than to neutrals. Total export rise is almost 30 per cent, but increase in goods going to Britain has been only 10 per cent. Norway's demand for American supplies has shown the startling rise of 144 per cent. Swedish buying is up 67 per cent, Dutch 47 per cent, and Italian 41 per cent. No one believes that these countries are using all of what they buy for themselves. Logical explanation is that a large part of the purchases is being transhipped to Germany, which is unable to trade directly with us because of the Allied blockade.

Some of our best known labor leaders seem to have taken a lesson from Washington. More and more their actions are guided by political considerations; the interest of the working man in having a good and permanent job is apparently regarded as secondary to the business of jockeying about in an effort to gain personal advantage.

It is no secret who pays for this—the worker pays. He pays for labor racketeering. He pays for useless and unjustifiable strikes which throw him out of a job for months on end. He pays for the internecine warfare which has distributed labor's ranks for years.

There can be no question but that the cause of legitimate unionism which will advance the real interests of the workers has been seriously damaged.

Two hundred capital stock fire insurance companies with resources of hundreds of millions of dollars, are engaged in the business of tragedy prevention. Through regional and national organizations, such as the National Board of Fire Underwriters, they study many thousands of fires throughout the country every year. They search for causes, work out ways to prevent repetitions. Their recommendations are free to every city and town, for the benefit of every individual.

Like the gasoline tax, a highway toll charge is becoming increasingly popular among American States as an easy way of collecting funds from motorists for construction of roads. Similarly, tolls, like the gasoline tax, can and are being utilized for building highways that might not otherwise become immediately available through any other form of financing.

More than 100 lawyers in the Department of Justice are devoting their full time to investigating violations of the anti-trust laws in the building trades of the United States. Since the inquiry got under way last summer it has cost about \$175,000 and has brought in a large netful of results. It is aimed at the abuse of power by labor unions.

### URGES RETURN TO LAND FOR PROSPERITY

A return to the land and a lot of hard work, coupled with the self-reliance and independent spirit of the founding fathers of his country, is the formula needed to put the nation back on its feet, in the opinion of Roger W. Babson, business analyst. Citing the case of an Arkansas man who lost his job in the depression, but chose to take his family to a small farm and work himself out of his predicament instead of relying on government aid, Mr. Babson concludes that "personal initiative was what made this country great, only personal initiative will solve its present problems."

Mr. Babson believes, however, that this return to the land must be at the initiative of individuals who want to make their own way. Resettlement projects, such as tried by the government, set people down with fine homes, modern conveniences—and an insurmountable debt.

Seven carloads of automotive freight are shipped in the United States on railroads in this country every minute of every hour.

### WHY THE PEACE EFFORTS?

By J. E. Jones

Mostly everybody who listens to the radio news reports share in the belief that the European War will have to be fought to a conclusion. All the belligerent nations spread that as the official determination of the several nations.

Meantime, the doctrines of peace are being pushed by increasing numbers of leading educators and level-headed Americans, some of whom declare themselves as individuals and some of whom are engaged with growing groups and organizations of peace societies.

The President of the United States and the Secretary of State decided to send Sumner Welles on a mission to different capitals—and this was a peace mission.

There is nothing wrong about trying to stop a war because there is nothing right about a war in the first place. Therefore missions of peace are trying to do something to improve civilization. War is plain barbarism and everybody knows it, and it is a very narrow person who would cry down, and aim cruel accusations against an advocate of a peace proposal. Just give pacific-minded people credit for the fact that they want to do something to stop the killing of human beings! If you think they aren't "doing any good," you might also ask the question, "what good" anybody is doing who wants to carry on wars of extermination of millions of innocent people who have nothing to say about what a few leaders of their nation have decreed must be done. In Germany there are a half dozen persons, and in Russia another small group of human devils who are wholly to blame for the wars in Europe.

### Trade Treaties

The protective tariff system was a battle-front between the Republican and Democratic parties for seventy-five years. When William Howard Taft was President a tariff board was created to study the situation. During Calvin Coolidge's second term the legislative and administrative branches of the Washington Government began to recognize the importance of statistical bureaus of the Government as determining factors in fixing up tariff schedules. The dissatisfaction with the old system afforded a chance for Cordell Hull, a low tariff Senator, to get his ideas across. That is why, for seven years, the State Department has been bargaining with the Governments of the World and agreeing upon tariff schedules.

Treaties were arranged on a trial basis, and now the time is up for continuing them or adopting some other plan.

The Republicans are now divided upon the tariff problem. For that reason the Hull treaties will likely be approved and continued at the present session of Congress. They appear to have safe majorities in both the Senate and House.

### Cutting Down Expenses

The House of Representatives voted big economies when it passed the farm bill. The measure sent to the Senate was more than 66 million dollars below the President's budget figures. On the very day this bill was passed in the House the President intimated there would be a veto in case the cuts were restored by Senate and House action. At the same time Secretary Wallace complained that the House was "scuttling" his program.

The present Congress has boasted that it would slash the size of various New Deal programs and save a lot of money for the taxpayers.

The public is always sympathetic with the farmers. The public is also sympathetic with legislative efforts in behalf of economy. At present our Congress is apparently putting the cart before the horse, and destroying public support by reducing agriculture appropriations.

Wouldn't it be more logical to have taken up economies with reference to a lot of New Deal programs that are generally regarded as extravagant and wasteful?

### Cotton Goes Across The Seas

Once upon a time American cotton was shipped all over the world and then came the tragic losses of the foreign markets.

### NINE LESS TRAFFIC DEATHS IN FEBRUARY THROUGHOUT STATE

13 of 23 Counties Have Spotless Record for Two Months—400 Groups Supporting Program

Not only did February turn in the best traffic record in many months, with a net reduction for the State of 9 deaths, or 22 against 31 in 1939, but almost of equal interest is the fact that 13 of the 23 counties of the State have had a perfect record in this respect for the first two months of the year. Governor Herbert R. O'Connor was enthusiastic over the February results and confident that the remainder of the year will bring great gains in the fight his Maryland Traffic Safety Committee has been waging since October against traffic fatalities in the State.

But for the death of a pedestrian in Cecil County, the entire Eastern Shore would have had a spotless record for the first two months. On the Western Shore, the Counties in the select class for the period include Allegany, Carroll, Charles, Garrett and Washington. In addition, Anne Arundel, Calvert and St. Mary's went through February without a death charged against them. Of the 22 deaths in the State during the month, 11 occurred in Baltimore City, but even there a reduction of one was effected, the first time the City has shown a downward trend in months.

Traffic Safety Committee headquarters, in the State House at Annapolis, has been busy mailing out more than four hundred attractively printed "Certificates of Appreciation", signed by Governor O'Connor to the many Civic and Service Clubs, Church Organizations, Fire Companies, Business Organizations, 4-H and Home Makers' Clubs, Parent Teachers' Groups and Veterans' Posts, which have taken formal action signifying their willingness to support and cooperate with the Maryland Traffic Safety Committee's Safety Program.

Individual memberships represented by the groups and organizations already on record will total approximately forty thousand. One of the most important groups to fall in line during the past week was the Phillips Packing Company Employees' Association, of Cambridge, with a membership of approximately two thousand.

The Certificates, bordered in gold and carrying the Seal of Maryland, will be an attractive addition to the meeting rooms of all of these groups, and will serve as constant reminder to the members of the important part they are playing in the Safety Program, which has for its aim the lessening of deaths and accidents on the highways.

### BACK YARD TREASURE

"A man should at least use the treasures in his own back yard while he is looking for treasures elsewhere," says an article in the current Yearbook of Agriculture. "A healthful diet for his family is one treasure the farmer can find in his own back yard, in his garden, in his orchard, his pasture, his hen house, his barn. City people cannot have these things. They have to depend entirely on what they can afford to buy at the store."

Federal tax experts calculate that income taxes this year from state and local government employees may run two or three times as high as the \$16,000,000 previously forecast. Under the new law, the estimated \$3,600,000,000 salaries of about 2,600,000 state and local workers will be subject to Federal tax.

### Direct Mass Parking

New Hampshire state police, by use of a high observation tower, believe they have another solution to the problem of directing mass parking at such huge sport events as championship ski jumps, football games and prize fights. An observation tower first was used at the national championship ski jump at Milan, N. H. It was placed in the center of the parking area—an airport—and the operator given large placards bearing the numbers of the various parking lanes below. When the operator saw that lanes in one section of the parking area were being filled, he blew a whistle to attract attention of the traffic directors, and held up the number of the lane to which he wished traffic directed. This kept the flow of automobiles continuous and uninterrupted. The method is similar to the one used by New Jersey state police, who use observation balloons in directing Sunday traffic during the summer months.

Official reports just issued from Washington show Great Britain, China, Spain and Sweden have increased their purchases of American cotton, with the result that the foreign market consume more than 5 1/2 per cent more cotton in 1939 than in the previous year.

Cotton is a raw product used in making explosives. Nevertheless Spain is now buying increased quantities of cotton for manufacturing. Thus it may appear that Spain is furnishing a lesson to the world in showing that the best and cheapest kinds of all textile are made of American cotton.



"Bright...Clever... Entertaining," Says THE NEW YORK TIMES

AND you'll agree with that verdict. Here's a serial story in which the characters are real—so real they'll be like old friends when you've finished the last exciting chapter. It's a story you'll like, one that's entertaining and refreshing, one that will win the author thousands of new friends.

## TWO KEYS TO A CABIN

By Lida Larrimore

A charming new serial by the author of such outstanding successes as "The Wagon and the Star," "Mulberry Square," "True By the Sun," "The Silver Flute" and "Jonathan's Daughter."

SERIALLY IN THESE COLUMNS

### Japanese Language Characters

Only 3,000 characters are needed to express every-day thoughts in good Japanese, says Professor Onishi, of Hosei university. He asserts that 80,000 characters are in everyday use, but that in 92 per cent of the cases 3,000 different ones practically cover the field. He has written a dictionary of these characters, which he hopes will supersede all similar lexicons. He holds that the 1,859 ideograph list compiled by the Education Ministry of Tokyo is too short, while half the 7,000 characters usually found in ordinary printing shops are practically unused. It is his idea that the type in use can be reduced to 3,000 and that the saving in labor and expense will be enormous.

Eight dollars a minute is now being spent in America on experimenting with aircraft and airplane parts.

Denmark and Sweden are so active agriculturally that they produce 1,200 pounds of meat every minute of every hour.

### 'Maryland, My Maryland'

The song "Maryland, My Maryland" was written by James Ryder Randall. While teaching in New Orleans he read of the attack on Baltimore, his native city, in April, 1861. He was deeply stirred and was unable to sleep. He arose at midnight to jot down the lines of the poem "Maryland, My Maryland." The lines appeared in the April 26 issue of the New Orleans Delta. They were immediately reprinted throughout the South. The Misses Jenny and Hetty Cary of Baltimore set the words to the music of an old German song and sang it with such effect that it became the battle song of the South.

The widow's mite is used too often as an excuse for small contributions.

All women are born equal, but some of them spoil it by getting married.

When some men entertain an idea it is extremely cheap hospitality.

### Steps in Animal Learning Shown by Scientific Test

Use of tools by animals came into existence long before man or even the higher apes evolved, Dr. Carl J. Warden, associate professor of psychology at Columbia university, says in reporting the completion of a series of tests. It was discovered that the lower primates were capable of employing a series of rakes to obtain food placed out of their reach.

Not only did the monkeys use the rakes, which varied from one to about three feet in length, but they developed an insight into the problem which enabled them to succeed in using the tools without a haphazard trial and error method.

Failure to get the food caused some of the monkeys to act very much like spoiled children. When the problem became too difficult for some of them to solve they flew into a tantrum, kicking their feet, biting the rakes and tearing their hair. On the other hand success often made them eager to continue using the tools.

The monkeys were placed in a cage approximately three feet square and food was left on a long platform just out of their reach. The first step was to leave a short rake lying along side of the food in such a manner that if the monkey pulled in the rake he would automatically get the food. Later the rake was separated from the food and the animal had to learn how to grasp the rake at the right end and "hook" the food for himself.

When the food was placed out of reach of the rake, the monkeys learned how to use the short rake to get a longer one and in turn to "hook" the food. This process was repeated until finally some of the more intelligent animals were using eight rakes placed at different distances from the cage to get the food.

The ability to use tools has in the past been thought to be exclusively a characteristic of man and the higher primates, such as gorillas, chimpanzees, and orangutans. This experiment definitely shows that the use of tools originated long before even the chimpanzee evolved.

### North Carolina Town Is 'Zoned' for Loading

Citizens of Louisburg, N. C., are inclined to believe that life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness includes the privilege of a bit of public leisure. Louisburg has gone to bat for its citizens and country people who like to stop on the street and talk about politics, the war and hunting.

Along a couple of busy streets, the sidewalks have been marked off in three lanes. Center lane is strictly for walking purposes—the two outside lanes are for the innocent idling which is part of the pleasure of a southern town. A few benches are placed in the loafing space.

Under Louisburg's system, a farmer come to town to sell his tobacco is in no danger of being pushed around by hurrying Saturday afternoon crowds. Upon meeting his friends from the next county, the group simply steps over into the loafing zone, and there, protected by law and manners, they may chin to their hearts' content.

Red light is produced by atoms quivering at a rate of five hundred trillion vibrations a second! And to produce other colors of the spectrum—the atoms move faster.